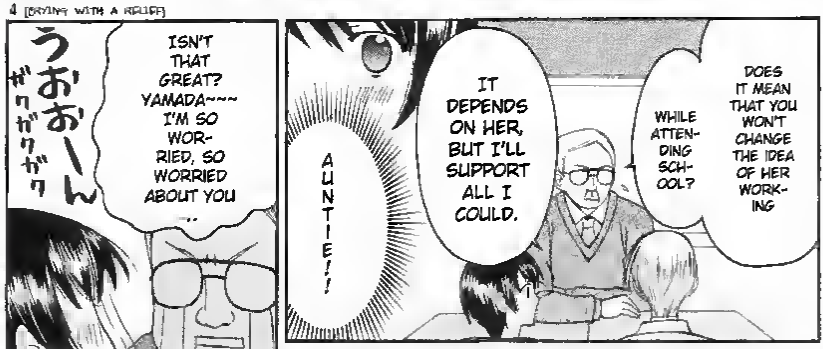
SIS-
TER,
[RAIN-
ING]
Chapter 31
Time That Doesn't Return
IT'S
A PRO-
MISE.
WHY
DIDN'T
YOU
COME,
SIS-
TER.

3-PERSON INTER-VIEW
NEXT, YAMA-DA ----
YES
2
YAMA-DA, WHAT IS YOUR PLAN?
I WILL WORK WHILE ATTEN-DING HIGH SCHOOL.

SORRY, I'M LATE
[DOOR CLOSING]
ガラッ
EXCUSE ME.
IT'S FAR AND THE TRANSPORTATION COSTS MONEY TOO
I SEE... BUT YOU'RE AIMING FOR HIBISAWA HIGH SCHOOL ...
[SURPRISED]
I KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU
A.. AUNTIE!? HOW DID YOU ...?
3
WHAT DO YOU ABOUT KYOU YAMADA'S FUTURE?
NICE TO MEET YOU
MY NAME IS MIRAI TAKASHIMA.
AH, YES. I JUST KNEW ABOUT THIS RECENTLY AS WELL ...
AUNTIE? YAMADA, YOU HAD A RELATIVE?

DON'T TELL ME SHE'S GOING TO TALK ABOUT THIS?
IT'S A BIT FAR, SO I THOUGHT YOU COULD STAY IN THE DORM.
I WANTED YOU TO TRANSFER TO THE SCHOOL I USED TO ATTEND.
は？

4 [SIGHING WITH A RELIEF]

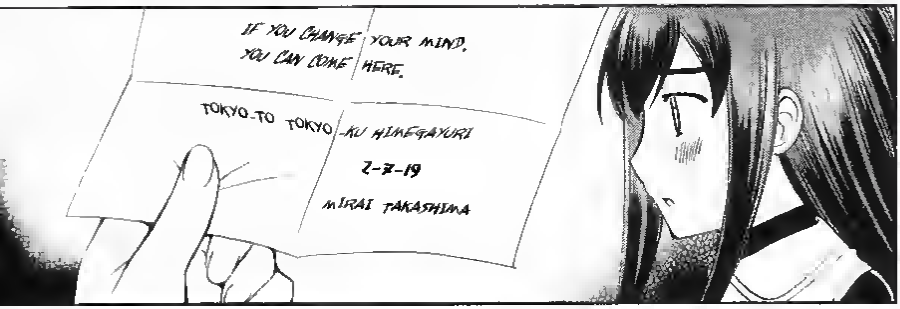


THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT YOU WOULD COME ...
SORRY FOR SHOWING UP ALL OF A SUDDEN.
LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEM

{BOW}

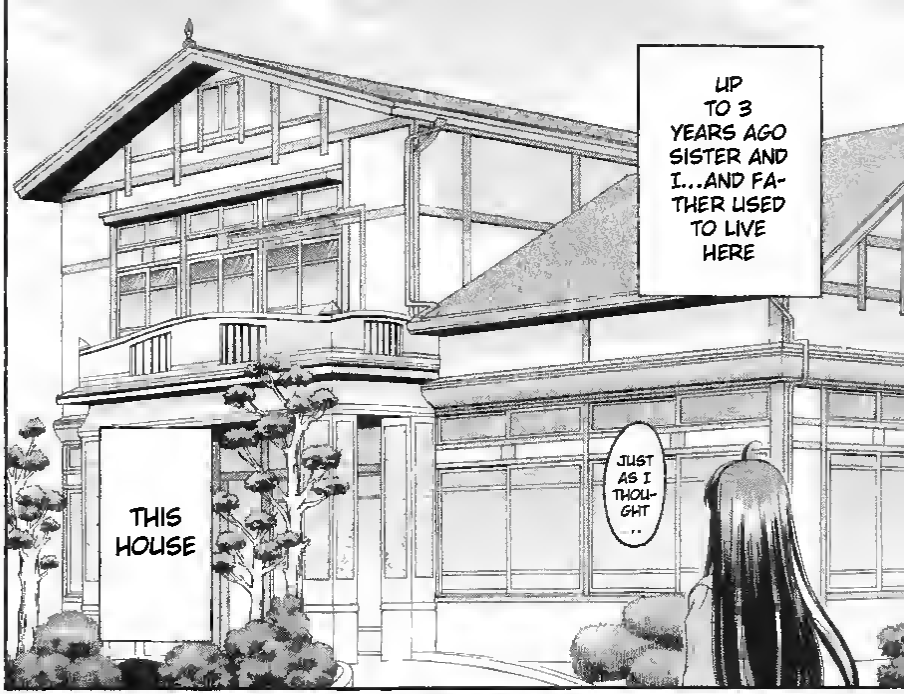
GOING NEWSPAPER DELIVERING?
YES, I HAVE TO HURRY!!
YOU WORK HARD, HUH?
I PROMISED ASU THAT I'LL TRY HARD, SO IT'S OK
SEE YOU LATER!
...
PROMISE ...NE ...

AT FIRST I THOUGHT SHE WAS SCARY,
BUT SHE UNDER-STANDS OUR FEEL-INGS!!
HEH ...
AUNTIE IS SUCH A NICE PER-SON !!
SISTER SEEMS SO HAPPY.
AS IF I JUST GOT MYSELF A RELIABLE SISTER.
6
THAT MEMO ...
I FORGOT TO MEN-TION IT.


IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND, YOU CAN COME HERE.
TOKYO-TO TOKYO-KU HIKEGAYURI
2-7-19
MIRAI TAKASHIMA

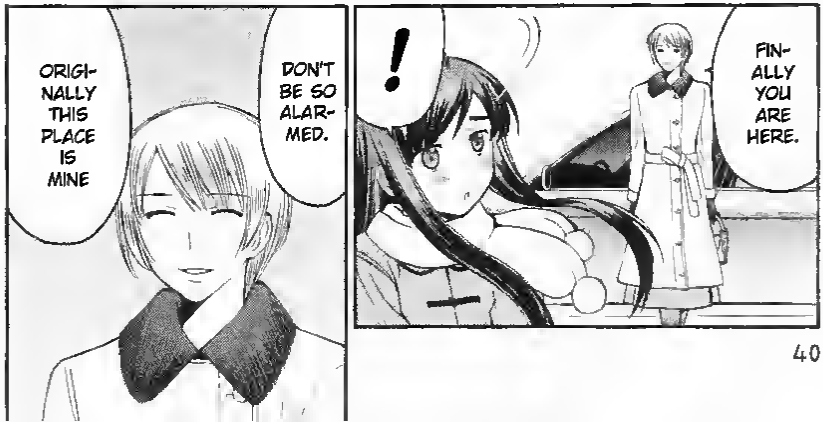
7

I
KNOW THIS PLACE.
EVEN WITH-OUT A MAP
MY LEGS CAN RE-MEMBER THE WAY

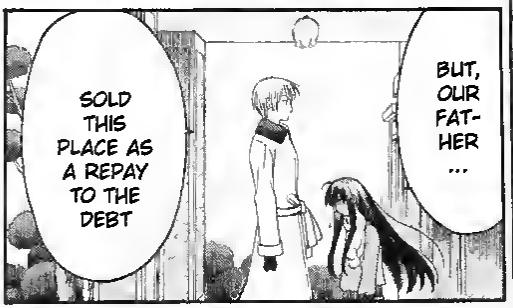

UP TO 3 YEARS AGO SISTER AND I...AND FATHER USED TO LIVE HERE
JUST AS I THOUGHT..
THIS HOUSE

SISTER SAID THAT SHE DID NOT WANT TO RECALL ANYTHING ABOUT FATHER
SHE DOES NOT COME NEAR THIS PLACE
WHY IS AUNTIE...

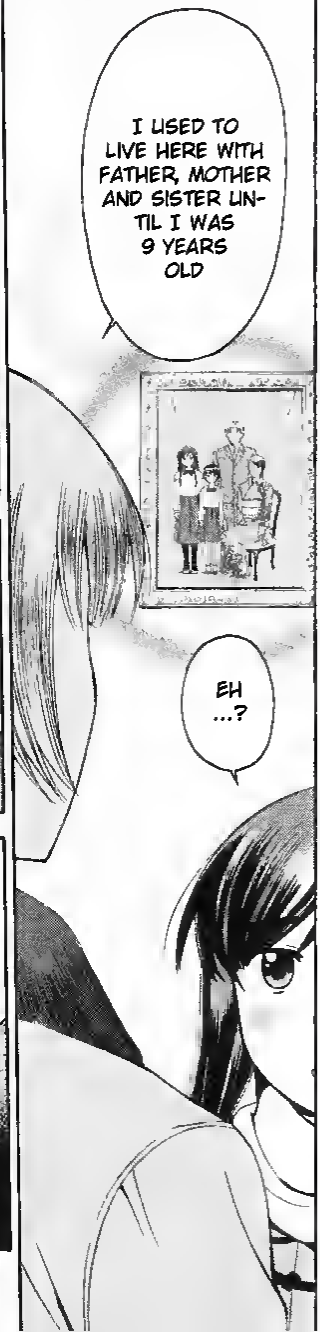
8


FINALLY YOU ARE HERE.
!
DON'T BE SO ALARMED.
ORIGINALLY THIS PLACE IS MINE

IT'S MY DREAM TO LIVE TOGE-THER LIKE YESTER-DAY


SOLD THIS PLACE AS A REPAY TO THE DEBT
BUT, OUR FAT-HER ...

ISN'T IT COLD?
LET'S GET IN-SIDE
Y... YES ...
I WILL NEVER LET IT GO AGAIN.
IT WAS HARD TO BUY IT BACK!


I USED TO LIVE HERE WITH FATHER, MOTHER AND SISTER UN-TIL I WAS 9 YEARS OLD
EH ...?

YEAH...
INTERIOR DECORATIONS HAD CHANGED A LOT.

YES, I HAVE A MAID HERE THOUGH
AUNTIE, ARE YOU LIVING HERE BY YOURSELF?

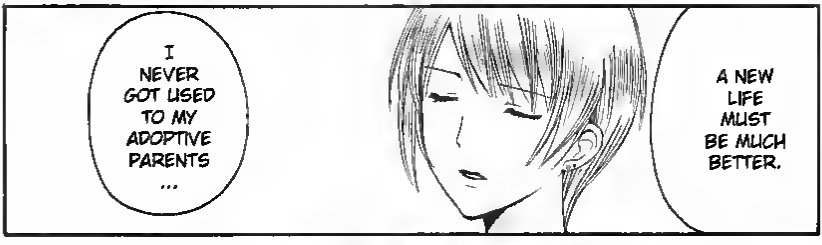
WHY HAD YOU ALWAYS LIVED SEPARATELY FROM MOTHER?

ERM.. CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
WHAT IS IT?

THAT IT WAS SISTER'S WISH
... OUR PARENTS DIED FROM TRAFFIC ACCIDENT ...
SISTER WENT TO LIVE WITH GRANDFATHER ON DAD'S SIDE AND I WITH AUNT ON MOM'S SIDE
FA-THER'S AND MOTHER'S FAMILIES DON'T GET ALONG THAT WELL, SO WE DIDN'T GET TO SEE EACH OTHER.
BUT THE VERY REA-SON IS ...
!!
THAT'S NOT TRUE ...
I WAS THE SAME AS YOU TWO ...
SISTER, I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE YOU ...
WE WERE TRYING TO STAY TOGE-THER
MIRAI, LISTEN TO ME!
WE OFTEN LEFT OUR HOUSE
TO SEE EACH OTH-ER.

IT'S A PROMISE!

BUT SISTER NEVER CAME.
SISTER!
SISTER!
MOTHER DIDN'T KEEP THE PRO-MISE ...!?
NO WAY ...THERE MUST BE A REASON ...!!
12
I BEL-IEVED SO TOO ...
BUT AFTER MY ADOPTIVE PARENTS BROUGHT ME BACK,
THERE'S LETTER TO ME ...
IF YOU ARE A GOOD GIRL,
WE WILL MEET AGAIN.
THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS IN THE LETTER.


I NEVER GOT USED TO MY ADOPTIVE PARENTS ...
A NEW LIFE MUST BE MUCH BETTER.

NO MATTER WHERE, I AM ALWAYS ALONE ...

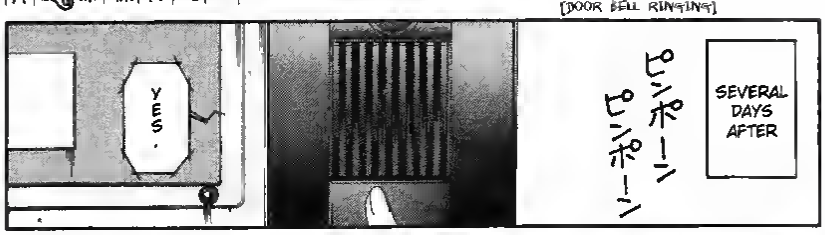
YOUR SISTER MUST BE WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
WELL, IT'S GET-TING DARK.

AUN-TIE ...

THANK YOU.
UM ...I'LL COME AGAIN!

I HAVE TO TELL SISTER THAT I WENT TO AUNTIE'S HOUSE
SISTER, DO YOU STILL REMEMBER THE HOUSE FROM LONG TIME AGO?
OF COURSE, I DO REMEMBER ...

[SOBBING]
じわぁ
THE HOUSE FILLED WITH MEMORY OF MOTHER..
WAS SOLD BY SUCH A USELESS DAD
« IT MEANS LITTLE BY LITTLE (TEARS ARE SLOWLY COMING OUT)
ごごご
TRYING TO HOLD HER TEARS
I... I'M SORRY, SISTER ...
わあ
I CAN'T SAY IT ...


[DOOR BELL RINGING]
ピンポーン
ピンポーン
SEVERAL DAYS AFTER
YES.

IT'S ASU YAMADA.
YOU REALLY CAME. I'M OPENING THE DOOR RIGHT NOW!
WOW! HAND-KNIT MUFFLER!?
IF YOU LIKE, PLEASE TAKE IT.
I'M SO HAPPY. THANK YOU!
SISTER IS GOOD AT KNITTING. SHE ALWAYS MAKES IT FOR ME ...

[FOOD SIZZLING]
AUNTIE, YOU'RE SO GOOD AT COOKING!!
WELL.
MOTHER MADE ME LEARN A LOT ...
IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT CAME IN HANDY.
あはは
[HAHA]

THIS IS THE RECIPE.
BRING THE FOOD BACK AND EAT WITH YOUR SISTER.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
IT'S FOR THE MUFFLER.

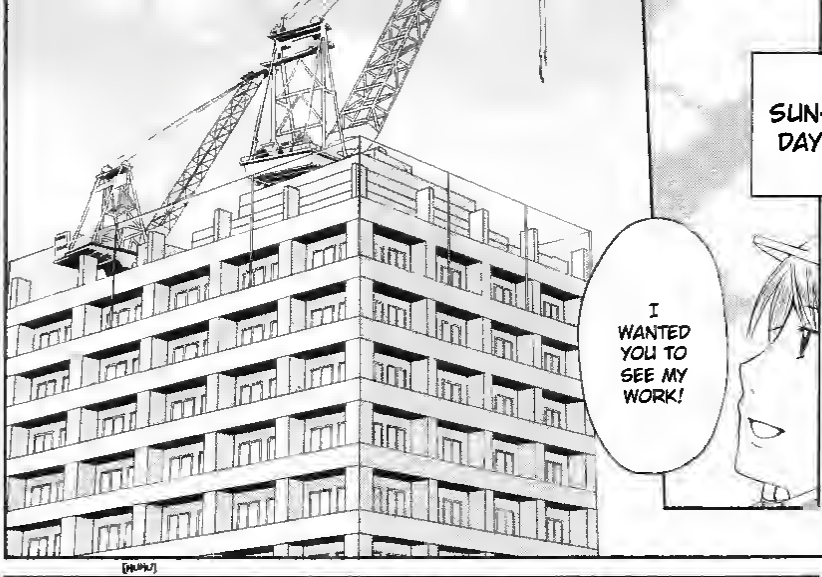
16

WELL THEN, SEE YOU LATER.
... SHE REALLY RESEMBLES SISTER ...

NEXT DAY
MORNING NEWSPAPER!
KYOU-CHAN, GOOD MORNING!
AUNTIE
GOOD MORNING!
17
THANK YOU FOR BRINGING FOOD ALL THE WAY FOR ME.
. . . !
[WHISPERING]
THANK YOU FOR THE FOOD YESTERDAY!
IT WAS REALLY DELICIOUS!!
...ASU HASN'T TOLD HER THAT SHE CAME TO MY HOUSE ...
EH?
NO, IT'S NOTHING.

AT ANY RATE, YOU TWO SURE GET ALONG VERY WELL
YEAH!
BUT IF ...
ASU-CHAN TELLS YOU A LIE
OR HIDES SOME-THING FROM YOU, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
THERE'S NO PROB-LEM!
WE PROMISED THAT WE'LL NOT HIDE ANYTHING FROM EACH OTHER.
WHAT IF SHE BROKE THE PRO-MISE?
I'LL ASK HER WHY.
HMMM...
IT DEP-ENDS, BUT I'LL BE AN-GRY.
BUT,

I'LL FORGIVE HER FOR EVERY-THING
I'M HER SISTER AFTER ALL!
. . . !
. . .
DO YOU HAVE TIME THIS SUN-DAY?
THERE'S PLACE I'D LIKE BOTH OF YOU TO VISIT.


SUN-
DAY
I WANTED YOU TO SEE MY WORK!

[RUMBLE]
I DE-SIGN-ED IT.
THIS BUILDING ...YOU BUILT THIS?

20

AWE-SOME ...!
SO AUNTIE IS AN ARCHI-TECH.
BUILD-ING A BUILDING IS A LOT OF FUN
I DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF SUCCEED-ING FAMILY BUSI-NESS,
IT'LL BE DONE SOON.
IN HERE, THERE ARE MANSIONS, DEPART-MENT STORES AND EVEN SUPER MARKET

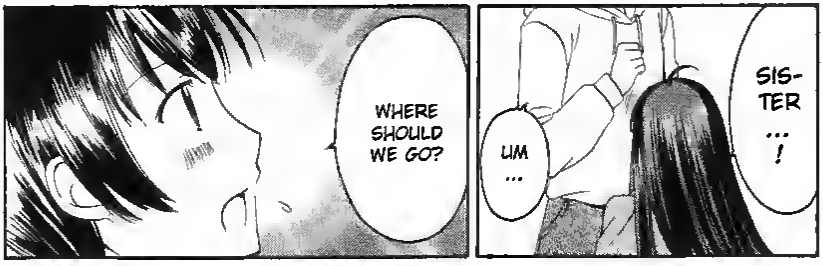
EH?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, ASU-CHAN?
WHAT KIND OF BUILDING DO YOU WANT TO BUILD?
A PLACE WHERE I CAN HEAR A SONG FROM NEXT DOOR...WHERE A LOT OF CHER-RY BLOSSOM CAN BE SEEN FROM WIN-DOW...
ISN'T THAT PLACE THE APARTMENT WE'RE LIVING IN?
WITH BUILT-IN BATH-ROOM
UMM...
UMM...
YOU REALLY LIKE YOUR APARTMENT, DON'T YOU?
FOR ME I WANT TO BUILD A TALLER BUILDING

IT'S A REALLY WONDER-FUL JOB!
I'M HAPPY YOUR'RE INTERESTED IN IT.

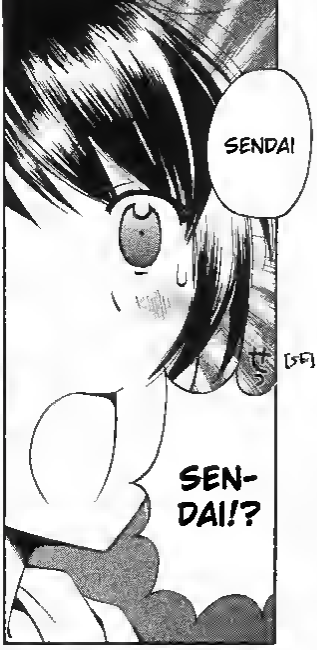
[CELL PHONE RINGING]
BRRRRRR
YES, IT'S ME.
EH ...?
MOTH-ER...
COLL-APSED AGAIN?
I UNDERSTOOD.
YES, YES.
PLEASE.
[CLOSING THE PHONE]

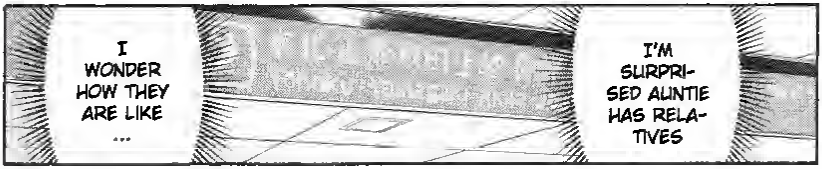
FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE, SHE'S YOUR GREAT-GRAND-MOTHER
AUNTIE'S MOTHER ...?
WHAT A PAIN ...MOTHER IS ...
CAN YOU GO SEE MOTHER FOR ME INSTEAD?
SHE WANTED TO SEE YOU
... SOME TIME AGO WHEN I MENTION ABOUT YOU TO MOTHER,
I HAVE TO PUT A HALT TO MY WORK AND GO TO THE HOSPITAL
SHE'S IN THE HOSPITAL ...
EHH!?

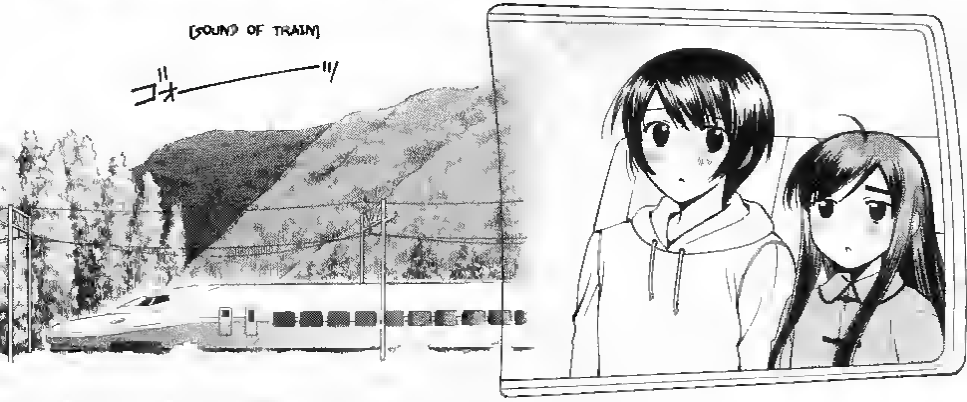
23


WHERE SHOULD WE GO?
UM ...
SISTER ...!

I'LL ARRANGE THE SHINKANSEN (BULLET TRAIN) TICKET FOR YOU RIGHT AWAY
I'LL QUICKLY GO THERE AFTER I'M DONE WITH THIS
THANK YOU FOR GOING FOR ME
AND I'LL CONTACT SCHOOL AND THE NEWS-PAPER DELIVERY COM-PANY
AH ... ER ...
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE CLOS-ER..


SENDAI
[SF]
SEN-DAI!?


I WONDER HOW THEY ARE LIKE ...
I'M SURPRI-SED AUNTIE HAS RELA-TIVES


[SOUND] OF TRAIN]
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BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
http://aozora-no-kumo.com/

TRASLATOR: NORMAN
TYPESETTERS: DRAAGON

NOTE:
IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON USUING OUR MANGA OR POSTING IT ANYWHERE, THEN YOU MUST CONTACT US. FROM THERE WE MUST HAVE A MUTUAL AGREEMENT :) ALSO WE ARE IN NEED OF MORE PEOPLE TO HELP NO EXPIERENCE IS NEEDED!